

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 410-313-2350

Marsha S. McLaughlin, Director

www.co.ho.md.us FAX 410-313-3467 TDD 410-313-2323

## TECHNICAL STAFF REPORT

Planning Board Hearing of September 6, 2012

Road Name Change

Coon Hunt Court to April Wind Circle

Re: Street renaming of Coon Hunt Court, located directly northeast of Soaring Hill Road, to be

renamed April Wind Circle.

**Petitioner:** Howard County Executive

**Request:** The purpose of this hearing is to rename Coon Hunt Court as April Wind Circle in accordance

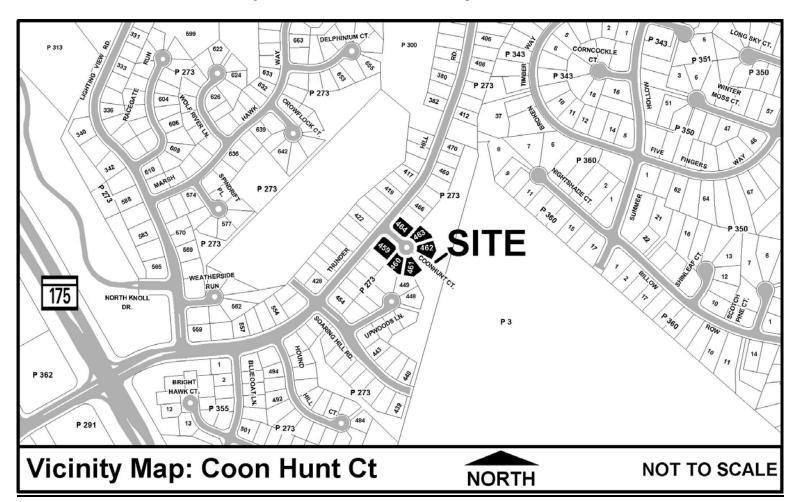
with Section 16.400 of the Howard County Code.

**Location:** The subject road is located directly northeast of Soaring Hill Road off of Thunder Hill Road in

the Village of Oakland Mills subdivision, Section 1, Area 4, in the Columbia area of Howard County, as shown on Tax Map 30, in the Sixth Election District of Howard County, Maryland.

**Recommendation:** The Department of Planning and Zoning recommends that the Planning Board approve the street

renaming for Coon Hunt Court to be renamed April Wind Circle.



## **Analysis:**

This public street renaming request has been initiated by Howard County Executive, Ken Ulman, to eliminate a street name that is offensive to many people in the surrounding community. A petition to rename Coon Hunt Court has been prepared and signed by the residents that live on the street, and this street name change has the support of all six residents that reside on the street. Additionally, Howard County Council Member Calvin Ball, who represents this community, is also in support of the street name change.

Therefore, in the interest of the people that reside on Coon Hunt Court and the surrounding community, this Department is requesting a new street name for Coon Hunt Court. There will be no need to change existing house numbers for these properties.

In accordance with Howard County Policy and Code, Section 16.400, the Planning Board may rename a street or highway on request of one or more residents of the street or highway provided that the change does not cause a duplication of street names, ninety percent of the residents of the street or highway agree in writing to the change, and the Department of Planning and Zoning notifies the residents and property owners of the change pursuant to, "notification of change in street name," of Section 16.400(d) of the Howard County Code.

The proposed street name of April Wind Circle was the residents' first choice for a new street name, and that name has been approved by the United States Postal Service, the Department of Fire and Rescue Services, and the Howard County Police Department, Division of Communications.

A certified letter dated June 27, 2012 was sent to the six (6) affected property owners at least 30 days prior to the September 6, 2012 public hearing.

Legal advertisement appeared in both, the Howard County Times, and the Baltimore Sun, on August 2, 2012, and certifications have been received. All parties who expressed an interest in this petition have been notified by letter.

The Department of Planning and Zoning has been in close contact with County Council Member Calvin Ball's office, who represents this community, throughout the street renaming process. All of the affected property owner's concerns have been discussed, and the affected property owners support the street name change.

Howard County Executive, Ken Ulman initiated this request, and is in support of this street renaming request.

## **Recommendation:**

The Department of Planning and Zoning recommends that the Planning Board approve the street renaming for Coon Hunt Court to be renamed April Wind Circle.

Marsha McLaughlin, Director
Department of Planning and Zoning

Please note that this case file is available for public review at the Department of Planning and Zoning's public service counter, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.